on behalf of the Food Corporation of India/State Agencies has been allowed at a maximum of 1.5% of MSP.

(iv) Export of non-basmati rice below Minimum Export Price of $500 per metric tonne has been restricted.

(v) A notification requiring furnishing of return to the Secretary, Department of Food of the State Government in case of purchase (by any company or Firm of Individual) of rice beyond 10,000 tonnes and to the Central Government in case of purchase of rice beyond 25,000 tonnes has been issued. The above returns will indicate from where maximum quantities have been purchased. As a result, rice procurement for the Central Pool in KMS 2007-08 is 202.5 lakh tons (upto 3.3.2008) as compared to 193.5 lakh tonnes in the corresponding period last year.

Consultant for PCPIR

817. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government has appointed M/s Dalal Mott MacDonal as a consultant for short listing the location for setting up of Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR);

(b) if so, whether Dahej in Gujarat has been selected as one of the most important sites; and

(c) if so, the time period scheduled for setting up of PCPIR at Dahej?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): (a) No Sir. M/s Dalal Mott McDonald are now engaged for facilitating technical scrutiny of the PCPIR project proposals as received from State Governments by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.

(b) and (c): The State of Gujarat has submitted an application for hosting a PCPIR at Dahej spread over the blocks of Vagra and Bharuch in the district of Bharuch, South Gujarat. No time limit can be fixed for setting up of same.

Prices of Drugs

818. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what measures have been taken by Government to check the prices of drugs through the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Drugs Prices Control Order;

(b) the number of cases where prices rose beyond the permissible limits;

(c) whether the price control has any impact on supply and production of drugs in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): (a) The 74 bulk drugs specified in the first Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price .